

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BERNIE STONE AS
IOWAN, AND VETERAN, OF THE
WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, Veterans Day offers Americans time each year to reflect on the service and sacrifices of our veterans, reminding us of the freedoms and values we might take for granted other days. This is the week for us to pay our respects to those who have served and stand united in respect for our veterans. That is why today, I rise to honor a veteran who is a shining example of what it means to serve both in uniform and in his community. I am proud to recognize Bernie Stone as Iowan of the Week.

Bernie is the City Leader and Co-Founder of the Des Moines Chapter of Bunker Labs where he equips, mentors, and connects veterans and military spouses with resources to get them on the path to a successful business. He loves to help people achieve their goals and strives to help veterans find meaning and purpose after service. Bunker Labs is a national network of veteran and military spouse entrepreneurs dedicated to helping the military connected community start their own business. They are committed to seeing that every entrepreneur in the military-connected community has the network, tools, and resources they need.

Bernie moved to Des Moines in 2015 after a 20-year Army career that ended at the Pentagon, where he served as a Russian affairs specialist. Throughout his military career Bernie gained high-level experience in foreign affairs and national security policy as well as extensive overseas experience in Europe, Central Asia, and East Asia. He has served in five U.S. Embassies and was awarded the Medal of Merit from the Republic of Lithuania.

Bernie served our nation with honor and distinction. When he retired from military service and began the transition back into civilian life, he was surprised and disappointed to discover how difficult it was to find meaningful employment that would put his skills to use. Veterans find themselves in this circumstance all too often after service. In the face of that challenge, Bernie dedicated his skills to Bunker Labs so other veterans could overcome the same obstacle.

Organizations like Bunker Labs and advocates for helping veterans gain meaningful employment and professional opportunity after military life show that our veterans have the grit, skills, and work ethic that can help any business grow and compete. It is important to thank veterans for their service and honor them with events and national observances, and even more important to help them find health, happiness, and success when they come home. I am committed to making sure our military families can reintegrate into civilian life, and I will continue to fight for legislation

that ensures that our nation's veterans are taken care of.

I thank Bernie and all of our veterans who have dedicated their lives to serving this great nation. It is my honor to recognize him as Iowan of the Week.

TRIBUTE TO BERWIN HANNA

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend Berwin Hanna, who is stepping down this month from the Norco City Council. Norco, California, is known as Horsetown, USA because of its affection for horses, and few people have embodied its spirit more than Berwin Hanna.

As a native Texan, Berwin was raised around horses, cattle and livestock. Under the direction of his cowboy father, Berwin learned to tend cattle and train horses. Eventually, he would become an accomplished thoroughbred trainer and travel to racetracks from Michigan to New Mexico training horses. Berwin would later settle in Norco after being naturally drawn to the community because of its deep equestrian roots.

First elected to the Norco City Council in 2007, Berwin was motivated to serve and advocate for maintaining the city's rural, animal-keeping lifestyle. After joining the council, he worked to embrace Horsetown, USA's focus by developing more equestrian events and businesses. He was at the forefront of establishing the National Day of the Cowboy, which has quickly become one of the city's most cherished events. Throughout his time on the council, Berwin represented the city on the Riverside County Transportation Commission, Northwest Mosquito & Vector Control District and Riverside Transit Agency.

While Berwin will no longer be serving the city in an official capacity, I am confident he will continue to be a champion for Horsetown, USA into the future. I want to thank Berwin's wife, Diane, as well as both of his daughters and son for supporting him while he served his community. I know I speak on behalf of all residents in expressing my heartfelt thanks and praise for Berwin's significant contributions to the city of Norco.

RECOGNIZING COMMANDER
CHRISTOPHER JOHN ARBUCKLE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who continue to serve this great Nation with

honor—men such as Commander (CDR) John Arbuckle, United States Navy.

For the past year, CDR Arbuckle served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A 1998 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, CDR Arbuckle is a proud Naval Aviator who has also earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky. During his assignment in my office, CDR Arbuckle provided senior-level input for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Additionally, he executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of Virginia's First Congressional District with distinction.

Furthermore, CDR Arbuckle provided exceptional support to me as a staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Ranking Member. CDR Arbuckle dutifully provided me with guidance on what the Navy's path forward should be in critical areas such as training, readiness, and manning. His recent command experience was invaluable to my work in Congress.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus and the Co-Chair of the Navy-Marine Corps Caucus, I relied on CDR Arbuckle to organize quarterly events with government, military, and private sector leaders. These events allowed key decisionmakers to work together for the advancement of our future Naval Officers as well as the construction and repair of the ships on which they will serve.

CDR Arbuckle also directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion, and he leveraged his personal and operational experience in the Navy to respond to the most challenging inquiries. In addition to his efforts locally, CDR Arbuckle took on projects with regional, state, and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions.

CDR Arbuckle's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers. I would also like to thank CDR Arbuckle for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, both for our Nation and our great Navy. His impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. I have no doubt that CDR Arbuckle will continue to serve the Navy honorably and with distinction.

I wish John and his wife Allison, children Ella and Jack, the best of luck as they continue their journey together as a Navy family. It was an honor and a pleasure having John serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that members of our all-volunteer force like John stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.